

URBAN DISTRICT OF NEWPORT PAGNELL
ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND
HEALTH INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR
1959

CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL
N.E. HOLLIS, ESQ., J.P.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN:

H.W. MASON, ESQ.

COUNCILLORS:

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DR. A.A. CLAY.

G.W. GRIFFIN, ESQ.

F. CRAWLEY, ESQ.

W.S. HAWKINS, ESQ.

H. HUGHES, ESQ.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

D.H. Waldron, O.B.E., M.D., D.P.H.,

D.T.M. & H., Col. I.A.M.C. (Retd.)

(The Medical Officer of Health is also M.O.H. for the Borough of Buckingham, the Urban Districts of Bletchley, Linslade and Wolverton, the Rural Districts of Buckingham, Newport Pagnell and Wing, Area Medical Officer for North Bucks. and Divisional School Medical Officer for the North Bucks. Division and Buckingham and Winslow Districts).

DEPUTY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:

Dr. F.L. O'Rourke, M.B., C.H.B., D.P.H., D.I.H.

SURVEYOR AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR:

J.F. Hopkin, A.M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Council Offices,
60, High Street,
NEWPORT PAGNELL.

16th. May, 1960.

To the Chairman and Councillors of the
Urban District of Newport Pagnell.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the
Medical Officer of Health for the year 1959.

The BirthRate shows a slight rise on last year but is
still lower than that for the rest of the country.

The Death Rate remains the same as the previous year.
Heart Disease, Pneumonia and Cancer were the principal
causes of death.

The InfantileMortality Rate again shows the very
satisfactory return of NIL.

It is very satisfactory to report that the incidence
of infectious diseases was much less than 1958 and we had
no epidemics.

I should like again to record another year of helpful
cooperation with your Clerk, Mr. Hall, Mr. Hopkin your
Surveyor and Health Inspector and their staffs.

I am,

Your Obedient Servant,

DANIEL H. WALDRON.

Medical Officer of Health.

NEWPORT PAGNELL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1959

SECTION A.

<u>GENERAL STATISTICS</u>	1958	1959
Area (In Acres)	3,432	3,432
Population	4,400(est)	4,500 (est)
Number of Inhabited Houses	1,532	1,746
Rateable Value	50,618	55,742
Rate per Pound	22/6	22/6
Product of a 1d rate	£201.	£222

VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS

Legitimate (Males)	27	35
" (Females)	33	32
Illegitimate (Males)	2	NIL
" (Females)	1	NIL
Stillbirths	NIL	1
Birth Rate per 1,000 population	15.0	15.4
" " " " " (Bucks)	17.3	17.6
(England and Wales)	16.4	16.5

DEATHS

Males	48	43
Females	76	54
Death rate per 1,000 population	11.2	11.2
" " " " " (Bucks)	9.8	9.7
Maternal Mortality	NIL	NIL

DEATHS (Cont'd)

	1958	1959
Maternal Mortality (England & Wales)	0.43	0.38
Infantile Mortality (Deaths of Infants under 1 year per 1,000 births)	NIL	NIL
Infantile Mortality (Bucks)	16.4	18.4
Infantile Mortality (England & Wales)	22.5	22.0

PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH

	1958			1959		
	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.
Tuberculosis, respiratory	0	0	0	0	1	1
Tuberculosis, other	0	0	0	0	0	0
Meningococcal Infections	0	0	0	0	0	0
Acute Poliomyelitis	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cancer	9	4	13	4	6	10
Diabetes	0	1	1	0	0	0
Cerebral Haemorrhage	7	14	21	7	10	17
Heart Diseases	19	33	52	14	19	33
Other Circulatory Diseases	0	2	2	1	0	1
Influenza	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pneumonia	7	6	13	2	10	12
Bronchitis	3	3	6	7	2	9
Digestive Diseases	0	1	1	1	1	2
Nephritis	0	2	2	1	0	1
Hyperplasia of the Prostate	1	0	1	0	0	0
Pregnancy, Childbirth & Abortion	0	0	0	0	0	0
Congenital Diseases	0	0	0	0	0	0
Accidents	1	1	2	2	1	3
Suicide	0	1	1	1	0	1
All other causes	1	8	9	3	4	7
	<hr/>			<hr/>		
	48	76	124	43	54	97
	<hr/>			<hr/>		

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

1. LABORATORY SERVICES

The bacteriological work of the District has been carried out by the Public Health Laboratory, Northampton. Samples of water and sewage for chemical analysis were sent, and in the case of sewage to the Analyst, Great Ouse River Board.

2. AMBULANCE SERVICES

These services are administered by the County Council and are controlled in the North Bucks. Area from a station at Bletchley. In Newport Pagnell two ambulances and one sitting case car are maintained, supplemented if necessary by ambulances from other Districts.

3. NURSING FACILITIES

As in previous years the District Nurses carried on their very excellent and noble work.

4. CLINICS

Maternity and Child Welfare: This Clinic which is held at the Congregational School on the 1st. and 3rd. Wednesdays of each month, is attended by a Medical Officer, Health Visitor, District Nurse and of course members of the Voluntary Committee. I should like to pay tribute to these ladies of the Voluntary Committee who give up their spare time to this work. During the year 800 children attended this Clinic.

5. HOME HELP

This service, administered by the County Council, has done very good work since its inception. During the year 24 cases were assisted.

6. ORTHOPAEDIC CLINIC

Organised by the Regional Hospital Board. This Clinic meets fortnightly on a Friday.

7. HOSPITALS

The following hospitals have served this area:-

Northampton General Hospital.
Bedford County Hospital.
Royal Bucks. Hospital, Aylesbury.
Tindal Hospital, Aylesbury.
Harborough Road Isolation Hospital.
Renny Lodge Hospital.
Westbury Maternity Home.
Creaton Sanatorium.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. WATER SUPPLY

During the year the public water supply was derived from the three sources - namely Caldecote, Ash Hill and the bulk supply from the Bucks. Water Board.

The supply from the Caldecote sources was maintained excepting for the period 9th. May to 21st. September, during which period the treatment works was adapted and used for the purification of swimming pool water. This period during which the Caldecote supply was denied to the undertaking coincided with hot and dry weather conditions rarely

experienced in this Country.

The Council's water supply resources were able to supply the increased demands placed upon them and no restrictions of any kind were imposed upon water consumers. The total quantity of water supplied in bulk from the Bucks. Water Board was 25,786,000 gallons, whilst the average quantity of water taken from the Board throughout the year was 70,000 gallons per day, the average daily quantity taken during the first six months was 38,000 gallons. During the second six months the water available at Ash Hill was greatly reduced and additional quantities were supplied by the Board.

The quantity of water supplied from Ash Hill was 24,435,000 gallons and from Caldecote 7,392,000 gallons was supplied.

During the Summer the demand exceeded the previous normal average by 34% during a period of one week (week ending 27th. June), the average demand being 158,000 gallons, and the highest daily figure supplied being 212,000 gallons.

During the year the Council has had discussions with the Officials and Members of the Bucks. Water Board with a view to the Council's undertaking being taken over by the Water Board on 1st. April, 1960 as provided for in the Bucks. Water Act, 1959.

Copies of typical Chemical Analysis of the three sources of water are as follows:-

Source	<u>ASH HILL SUPPLY</u>
Appearance	Clear and bright
pH Value	6.9
Colour	3
Turbidity	Less than 1
(results in parts per million)	
Ammonia Nitrogen	0.002
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.032
Nitrite Nitrogen	Nil
Nitrate Nitrogen	3.20
O ₂ absorbed from permanganate (3 hours at 37° C.)	0.11
Free CO ₂	46
Alkalinity as CaCO ₃	280
Carbonate Hardness	280
Non-Carbonate Hardness	128
Total Hardness	408
Total solids (dried at 180° C.)	510
Calcium, as Ca	150
Magnesium, as Mg	8
Sulphate, as SO ₄	111
Chloride, as Cl	24
Silica, as SiO ₂	9
Iron, as Fe: Total	Nil
Soluble	---
Fluoride as F	Less than 0.1
Residual Chlorine (as received on 10/11/59)	0.5

Remarks:- This is a highly mineralised water of high hardness. The organic quality is satisfactory and the water is suitable for potable purposes. The fluoride content is low.

Source

CALDECOTE SUPPLY

Appearance	Clear and bright
pH Value	7.5
Colour	3
Turbidity	Less than 1
(results in parts per million)	
Ammonia Nitrogen	0.0006
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.104
Nitrite Nitrogen	Nil
Nitrate Nitrogen	4.08
O ₂ absorbed from permanganate (3 hours at 37° C.)	0.92
Free CO ₂	3
Alkalinity as CaCO ₃	55
Carbonate Hardness	55
Non-Carbonate Hardness	117
Total Hardness	172
Total Solids (Dried at 180° C.)	377
Calcium, as Ca	59
Magnesium, as Mg	6
Sulphate, as SO ₄	96
Chloride, as Cl	84
Silica, as SiO ₂	8
Iron, as Fe: Total	Nil
Soluble	---
Fluoride as F	0.4
Residual Chlorine (as received 10/11/59)	Trace

Remarks:- This is a water of moderate hardness. It shows signs of organic pollution, probably of vegetable origin. There is a trace of fluoride, about half of the amount at present considered the optimum content.

Source

FOXCOTE.

Appearance	Clear
pH Value	7.1
Colour	8
Turbidity	Less than 1

Results in parts per million)

Ammonia Nitrogen	0.028
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.192
Nitrite Nitrogen	Nil
Nitrate Nitrogen	0.69
O ₂ absorbed from permanganate (3 hours at 37° C.)	1.47
Free CO ₂	17
Alkalinity as CaCO ₃	120
Carbonate Hardness	120
Non-Carbonate Hardness	120
Total Hardness	240
Total Solids (dried at 180° C.)	350
Calcium, as Ca	81
Magnesium, as Mg	9
Sulphate, as SO ₄	102
Chloride, as Cl	36
Silica, as SiO ₂	8
Iron, as Fe: Total	0.05
Soluble	---
Fluoride as F	0.1
Residual Chlorine	0.85

Remarks:- This is a typical analysis of the water at Foxcote works, derived from the mains via the Foxcote Reservoir. The residual chlorine figure would be very considerably reduced when the water reached Newport Pagnell.

During the year 11 samples of water were supplied from Ash Hill source to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination, and seven from Caldecote. All samples submitted proved to be very satisfactory.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Regular sampling of the effluent discharged from the sewage works has been undertaken by the River Great Ouse Catchment Board and during the year no notifications of an unsatisfactory examination has been received.

During the year the sewerage of the town has been extended to permit the reception of drainage from the Service Area of the Motorway M.1. The development of this site comprises catering establishments, conveniences and petrol supply stations etc., it is estimated that waste from this site may be equivalent to perhaps 80 to 100 houses.

Private development on the Foxgate Estate (66 dwellings and 3 shops) and Linford Avenue Estate (47 dwellings) is at present proceeding and it is anticipated that the Council will maintain its programme of Council house erection on the Broad Street Estate.

The whole of development is situated at the Western end of the town served by the Caldecote Street / Wolverton Road sewer and during the year the Council have appointed Consulting Engineers who have reported on the whole aspect of both the surface and foul sewerage of the town and this report is receiving the Council's consideration.

Incidents of flooding occurred between 5th. and 9th. January, and 17th. to 20th. January, 1959, when sections of highway situated at Wolverton Road, Lakes Lane, Broad Street, Station Road and Willen Road were submerged. Flood water was above the ground floor level of three properties.

In view of the inability of the River Ouse to effectively drain the area of the town during abnormal weather conditions such as experienced during the above periods, the Council have approached the Great Ouse River Board on the subject and representatives of the Council appeared at an enquiry held in the Town Hall, Buckingham on 20th. May, 1959, and appealed against a proposal to promote a Buckingham Internal Drainage District.

Minor works of improvements to culverts and realignment and deepening of ditches in the Lakes Lane area have been undertaken by the Council during the year.

Extension and relief works to the sewerage system of the town are proposed for construction during 1960 and these include:- Extension to Wolverton Road Foul Sewer to boundary of district, Foul Drainage of dwellings 3 to 17, London Road, and construction of 18" and 21" relief surface water sewer in Broad Street. It is expected that the sewerage of Chicheley Street and the neighbouring development area will be proposed in the foreseeable future.

The sewerage works continues to function satisfactorily although the disposal of sludge presents some difficulty. There appears to be no outlet for the sale of this material in this district.

3. REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The maintenance of house refuse collection at weekly intervals has been maintained throughout the year. As mentioned in my previous report the existing house refuse tip has practically reached its capacity and additional land will shortly be required for this purpose.

SECTION D.
HOUSING ACT

In the year 1955 the Council approved a schedule of 63 dwellings in the town as being substandard; of these 63 dwellings, 30 have been demolished, 19 have been closed or undertakings given by the owners that the properties would not be occupied for dwelling purposes. During 1959, 8 houses were demolished and 11 closed leaving 14 occupied houses on the schedule for further action.

A further survey of dwellings incapable of being made fit at reasonable expense has been carried out and a list of 40 dwellings are recorded as being unsuitable for occupation. This includes properties within the area of the St. John Street area of redevelopment which it is expected will be substantially commenced early in 1960.

During the year the Council approved 10 applications for Improvement Grants, 5 applications for Standard Grants and 31 dwellings were made fit following informal action.

SECTION E.

1. GENERAL

33 cases of nuisances were dealt with during the year by informal action.

The cleansing of highways including the district roads and the classified highways in the town centre has been maintained. The installation of additional litter bins and the display of posters has had a very slight effect on the quantities of waste paper litter deposited in the streets.

2. FACTORIES ACT

During the year 4 contraventions of the Factories Act were dealt with, and one certificate of Means of Escape in Case of Fire issued. Certificates have been issued for the whole of the Factories to which the Act applies.

3. ICE CREAM

Twentyone premises are registered in the town for the purpose of the sale of ice cream and of these only one is registered for the manufacture of this product. There are also 4 vehicle operators retailing ice cream in the town with 3 of these working from depots outside the district.

4. FOOD HYGIENE

The Summer of 1959 was notable for the exceptionally long period of warm weather and danger of food contamination by wasps, house and blow flies was called to the attention of several food traders in the town.

There appears to be a general desire by the Proprietors or/and Managers of Public Houses, where previously only wines and spirits were retailed on the premises, to enter into the general catering trade. In some of the premises only buffet meals such as sandwiches and pies are sold for consumption on the premises but in others a full cooked meal is offered.

A number of the premises are not provided with the requirements of a modern catering establishment and advice has been given where required.

Generally the food distributing tradesmen have made genuine attempts to supply a clean and wholesome food product and in a number of instances structural alterations and the installation of fittings have been carried out on request.

5. SLAUGHTERHOUSES

There are no licenced slaughterhouses existing in the district and the supplies of meat, both imported and fresh, are obtained through wholesalers at Bedford, Northampton, Luton and other centres. There are five purveyors of meat established in the town.

6. PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

The Council have retained membership of the North Bucks. Area Rodent Committee, and during the year a total of 413 properties were inspected. Of this number 346 were visits to dwelling house property and the remainder to business, agriculture and local authority premises. 58 properties were found to have some infestation by rats and were treated. Mice were dealt with at 3 properties. Treatment of dwelling house property is a free treatment undertaken by the Council. Sewer inspections were made, and test baiting and maintenance treatment carried out as required by the Ministry of Agriculture.

7. UN SOUND FOODS.

Regular inspections of food distributive premises have been maintained and foodstuffs dealt with as required. A number of improvements were carried out under the Food Hygiene Regulations. The following items of food were condemned during the year.

Canned Vegetables	Canned Fruit	Meat & Meat Products
47 cans	141 cans	62 lbs.
Canned Milk	Fish	
16 cans	30 cans. one 18lb. box Herrings.	

1. GENERAL

The incidence of infectious diseases was much less than 1958. There were no epidemics.

2. NOTIFICATIONS

	1958	1959
Measles	122	4
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	2
Dysentery	1	NIL
Salmonella Infection	24	3
Anterior Poliomyelitis	22	NIL
Scarlet Fever	NIL	9

3. TUBERCULOSIS

One case was notified during the year. There was one death.

4. CANCER

This disease accounted for 10 deaths during the year compared with 13 in 1958.

D.H. WALDRON.

Medical Officer of Health.

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration
of the Factories Act 1937 - 1959
PART 1 OF THE ACT

1 - INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health
(including inspections made by Public Health Inspector).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspect ions. (3)	Written ntices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Section 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities/	15	17	-	NIL
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.....	22	53	3	NIL
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority/ (excluding out- workers' premises)	9	42	1	NIL
Total.....	56	112	4	NIL

2 - Cases in which defects were found
 (If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases")

PART VIII OF THE ACT
 OUTWORK
 (Sections 110 & 111)

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted. (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector. (4)	by H.M. Inspector. (5)	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	2	2	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	NIL	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	NIL	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	NIL	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	NIL	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Con.'s (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	3	3	-	-	-
Total	8	8	-	-	-

NATURE OF WORK	No, of out-work-ers in August list re-quired by Sec-tion 110 (1)(c) (2) (2)	No of cases of de-fault in send-ing lists to the Council (3)	No, of prosecu-tions for failure to supply lists (4)	No of inst-ances of work in un-whole-some premises (5)	Notice (6)	Prose-cutions (7)
Child-rens Wearing Apparel, Making etc.	1	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL